

response to a Notice of Funding Availability published in the FEDERAL REGISTER. All States and units of general local government and nonprofit organizations are eligible to apply for competitive grants to fund projects of national significance. Only those States and units of general local government that do not qualify for formula allocations are eligible to apply for competitive grants to fund other projects.

(d) If HUD makes a procedural error in a funding competition that, when corrected, would warrant funding of an otherwise eligible application, HUD will select that application for potential funding when sufficient funds become available.

[57 FR 61740, Dec. 28, 1992, as amended at 61 FR 7963, Feb. 29, 1996]

§ 574.210 Eligible applicants.

(a) All States, units of general local government, and nonprofit organizations, may apply for grants for projects of national significance.

(b) Only those States and units of general local government that do not qualify for formula grants, as described in § 574.100; may apply for grants for other projects as described in § 574.200(a)(2).

(c) Except for grants for projects of national significance, nonprofit organizations are not eligible to apply directly to HUD for a grant but may receive funding as a project sponsor under contract with a grantee.

§ 574.240 Application requirements.

Applications must comply with the provisions of the Department's Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for the fiscal year published in the FEDERAL REGISTER in accordance with 24 CFR part 12. The rating criteria, including the point value for each, are described in the NOFA, including criteria determined by the Secretary.

[61 FR 7963, Feb. 29, 1996]

§ 574.260 Amendments.

(a) After an application has been selected for funding, any change that will significantly alter the scope, location, service area, or objectives of an activity or the number of eligible persons served must be justified to HUD and

approved by HUD. Whenever any other amendment to the application is made, the grantee must provide a copy to HUD.

(b) Each amendment request must contain a description of the revised proposed use of funds. Funds may not be expended for the revised proposed use of funds until:

(1) HUD accepts the revised proposed use; and

(2) For amendments to acquire, rehabilitate, convert, lease, repair or construct properties to provide housing, an environmental review of the revised proposed use of funds has been completed in accordance with § 574.510.

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 2506-0133)

Subpart D—Uses of Grant Funds

§ 574.300 Eligible activities.

(a) *General.* Subject to applicable requirements described in §§ 574.310, 574.320, 574.330, and 574.340, HOPWA funds may be used to assist all forms of housing designed to prevent homelessness including emergency housing, shared housing arrangements, apartments, single room occupancy (SRO) dwellings, and community residences. Appropriate supportive services, as required by § 574.310(a), must be provided as part of any HOPWA assisted housing, but HOPWA funds may also be used to provide services independently of any housing activity.

(b) *Activities.* The following activities may be carried out with HOPWA funds:

(1) Housing information services including, but not limited to, counseling, information, and referral services to assist an eligible person to locate, acquire, finance and maintain housing. This may also include fair housing counseling for eligible persons who may encounter discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, familial status, or handicap;

(2) Resource identification to establish, coordinate and develop housing assistance resources for eligible persons (including conducting preliminary research and making expenditures necessary to determine the feasibility of specific housing-related initiatives);

(3) Acquisition, rehabilitation, conversion, lease, and repair of facilities to provide housing and services;

(4) New construction (for single room occupancy (SRO) dwellings and community residences only).

(5) Project- or tenant-based rental assistance, including assistance for shared housing arrangements;

(6) Short-term rent, mortgage, and utility payments to prevent the homelessness of the tenant or mortgagor of a dwelling;

(7) Supportive services including, but not limited to, health, mental health, assessment, permanent housing placement, drug and alcohol abuse treatment and counseling, day care, personal assistance, nutritional services, intensive care when required, and assistance in gaining access to local, State, and Federal government benefits and services, except that health services may only be provided to individuals with acquired immunodeficiency syndrome or related diseases and not to family members of these individuals;

(8) Operating costs for housing including maintenance, security, operation, insurance, utilities, furnishings, equipment, supplies, and other incidental costs;

(9) Technical assistance in establishing and operating a community residence, including planning and other pre-development or pre-construction expenses and including, but not limited to, costs relating to community outreach and educational activities regarding AIDS or related diseases for persons residing in proximity to the community residence;

(10) Administrative expenses:

(i) Each grantee may use not more than 3 percent of the grant amount for its own administrative costs relating to administering grant amounts and allocating such amounts to project sponsors; and

(ii) Each project sponsor receiving amounts from grants made under this program may use not more than 7 percent of the amounts received for administrative costs.

(11) For competitive grants only, any other activity proposed by the applicant and approved by HUD.

(c) *Limitations of assistance to primarily religious organizations*—(1) *Provision of assistance.* (i) Assistance may be provided under this part by a grantee to a project sponsor that is a primarily religious organization if the primarily religious organization agrees to provide all eligible activities under this program in a manner that is free from religious influences and in accordance with the following principles:

(A) It will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment on the basis of religion and will not limit employment or give preference in employment to persons on the basis of religion.

(B) It will not discriminate against any person applying for any of the eligible activities under this part on the basis of religion and will not limit such housing or other eligible activities or give preference to persons on the basis of religion.

(C) It will provide no religious instruction or counseling, conduct no religious services or worship, engage in no religious proselytizing, and exert no other religious influence in the provision of eligible activities under this part.

(ii) Assistance will not be provided to a project sponsor that is a primarily religious organization to construct or acquire a structure. Assistance may be provided to a project sponsor that is a primarily religious organization to rehabilitate or convert a structure owned by the organization, only as described in paragraph (c)(2) of this section.

(2) *Rehabilitation or conversion of structures owned by primarily religious organizations.* Grant amounts may be used to rehabilitate or convert a structure that is owned by a primarily religious organization, only if:

(i) The structure (or portion thereof) that is to be rehabilitated or converted with HUD assistance has been leased to an existing or newly established wholly secular organization (which may be established by the religious organization under the provisions of paragraph (c)(3) of this section).

(ii) The HUD assistance is provided to the secular organization (and not the religious organization) to make the improvements.

(iii) The leased structure will be used exclusively for secular purposes available to all persons regardless of religion.

(iv) The lease payments paid to the primarily religious organization do not exceed the fair market rent for the structure before the rehabilitation or conversion was done.

(v) The portion of the cost of any improvements that benefit any unleased portion of the structure will be allocated to, and paid for by, the religious organization.

(vi) The primarily religious organization agrees that if the secular organization does not retain the use of the leased premises for wholly secular purposes for the useful life of the improvements, the primarily religious organization will pay an amount equal to the residual value of the improvements to the original grantee from which the amounts used to rehabilitate or convert the building were derived. While the original grantee is expected to use this amount for eligible HOPWA activities, there is no requirement that funds received after the close of the grant period be used in accordance with the requirements of this part.

(3) *Assistance to a wholly secular private nonprofit organization established by a primarily religious organization.* (i) A primarily religious organization may establish a wholly secular private nonprofit organization to serve as a project sponsor. The secular organization may be eligible to receive all forms of assistance available under this part.

(ii) The secular organization must agree to provide eligible activities under this part in a manner that is free from religious influences and in accordance with the principles set forth in paragraph (c)(1)(i) of this section.

(iii) The secular organization may enter into a contract with the religious organization to operate the housing assistance, supportive services and other eligible activities for the project. In such a case, the religious organization must agree in the contract to carry out its contractual responsibilities in a manner free from religious influences and in accordance with the principles set forth in paragraph (c)(1)(i) of this section.

(iv) The rehabilitation or conversion of structures are subject to the requirements of paragraph (c)(2) of this section.

[57 FR 61740, Dec. 28, 1992, as amended at 59 FR 17200, Apr. 11, 1994]

§574.310 General standards for eligible housing activities.

All grantees using grant funds to provide housing must adhere to the following standards:

(a)(1) *General.* The grantee shall ensure that qualified service providers in the area make available appropriate supportive services to the individuals assisted with housing under this subpart. Supportive services are described in §574.300(b)(7). For any individual with acquired immunodeficiency syndrome or a related disease who requires more intensive care than can be provided in housing assisted under this subpart, the grantee shall provide for locating a care provider who can appropriately care for the individual and for referring the individual to the care provider.

(2) *Payments.* The grantee shall ensure that grant funds will not be used to make payments for health services for any item or service to the extent that payment has been made, or can reasonably be expected to be made, with respect to that item or service:

(i) Under any State compensation program, under an insurance policy, or under any Federal or State health benefits program; or

(ii) By an entity that provides health services on a prepaid basis.

(b) *Housing quality standards.* All housing assisted under §574.300(b) (3), (4), (5), and (8) must meet the applicable housing quality standards outlined below.

(1) *State and local requirements.* Each recipient of assistance under this part must provide safe and sanitary housing that is in compliance with all applicable State and local housing codes, licensing requirements, and any other requirements in the jurisdiction in which the housing is located regarding the condition of the structure and the operation of the housing.

(2) *Habitability standards.* Except for such variations as are proposed by the